

Aging

U.S. Department of HEALTH, EDUCATION, and WELFARE

No. 14 - November 1954

Helping the Elderly in Great Britain

The Scope of Programs of Voluntary Organizations and of the State

By John Moss, Chairman,
National Old People's Welfare Committee

[Great Britain's program for older people began many years ago. World War II, however, literally blasted large numbers of them into clearer view. It also brought on new or stepped up developments in health services, housing, a great variety of community services, and public and voluntary organizations to provide them.

This article is a brief account of the remarkable developments mainly of the past 10 years. More complete accounts may be found in the books and pamphlets listed in the book notes of this issue of Aging.

Author John Moss was a long-time government welfare administrator. Several years ago he broadened his sphere of activity by retiring from formal work and devoting his abounding energy to voluntary work, writing, and lecturing. During this new period he has travelled widely in search of new concepts in the field of aging.

-EDITOR]

The aim in Great Britain is to help elderly people of all ages to live happily in their own homes. This requires: (1) opportunity for continued employment; (2) good housing; (3) social security or other financial assistance for those who cannot earn; and (4) health and welfare services.

Employment. Two years ago the Minister of Labour appointed an Advisory Committee on Employment of Older Men and Women. The

first Committee report urged that all who wish to work and are able to give effective service should be given the opportunity. Management, Labour, and Government all support this position. Currently, research is being done by voluntary agencies, universities, and Government to determine how this objective may best be reached.

Housing. The National Old People's Welfare Committee has pressed the need for housing for older people. About 6 percent of the houses built by local authorities (public bodies) are intended for older persons. Voluntary housing associations also build dwellings for older people. Sometimes wardens or social workers are appointed for groups of dwellings. Housing Associations are advised by a National Federation which is associated with N.O.P.W.C.

Financial help. Those who have contributed to the National Insurance scheme are entitled to draw pensions at age 65 for men and 60 for women, on giving up regular work; at age 70 if they have not contributed. National assistance is also available to meet rent and other special needs. Thus, a pensioner paying a high rent has as much income for other needs as does the one paying a low rent. The pension may seem low as compared with that paid in some other countries but this is offset by subsidized housing, low-taxed tobacco for smokers and free health care in the home.

Health and welfare services. Coverage under the National Health Program is universal. Every person may select the physician of his choice and is entitled to free hospital care. In the health and welfare area, there is the closest cooperation between voluntary and

statutory agencies. Program and financial co-ordination begin in the National Committee and extend through county old people's welfare committees down to the local communities covered by some 1,100 local committees.

The National Old People's Welfare Committee was established by the National Council of Social Service 14 years ago. Its membership includes observers from five Government departments and representatives of some 40 national voluntary organizations, including all the associations of local authorities. Other members are chosen for their special individual knowledge, such as two members of the medical profession who are leaders in geriatrics. The British Medical Association and the Churches are also represented. The Committee is therefore thoroughly representative of all who are concerned in the various forms of provision for old people. The Committee meets quarterly and does much of its business through subcommittees. The National Council of Social Service provides staff and office accommodation. There is a small headquarters staff and regional officers throughout the country. The county committees usually have a paid secretary but the local committees are usually staffed by honorary (voluntary) officers. The National Committee was described recently by the Minister of Local Government as the accepted focus and centre to deal with diverse and often difficult problems relating to the welfare of old people.

The Ministry of Health grants £5000 a year towards the expenses of the National Committee, which amount to about £12,000 a year. The National Corporation for the Care of Old People grants £3,000. Subscriptions are received from voluntary organizations associated with the work and from county committees for the services they receive. Last year, £2,732 was received in special donations as the result of an appeal on the radio. The balance is met by the National Council of Social Service.

The National Committee provides a general advisory service; keeps in touch with the Government on all matters affecting old people, is consulted on proposed legislation and is invited to give evidence to Royal Commissions and Government committees; keeps in touch with the British Broadcasting Corporation in arranging special programs for old people; issues a quarterly bulletin and various publications which circulate to many countries overseas; maintains good contacts with the national press which often publishes news items and articles relating to matters concerning old people; arranges conferences attended by representatives of voluntary bodies and local authorities at which a Minister of the Crown is invariably the chief speaker; provides training courses for matrons of old people's homes, and is about to arrange training also for other workers in the field of old people's

welfare through £40,000 granted by the King George VI Memorial Foundation; makes grants to old people's clubs through money granted by certain charitable trusts; promotes research in associations with the universities; and deals with inquiries from overseas particularly from other parts of the British Commonwealth.

In the international field the National Committee assisted in organizing the Gerontological Congress held recently in London and is associated with the International Conference of Social Work.

County Committees and local committees bring together representatives of the various interests in their respective areas. These committees were initiated by the National Committee but the Minister of Health gave an impetus to this movement five years ago by addressing a letter to all local authorities suggesting that such committees should be established where they did not already exist. Old People's Weeks are held annually in Scotland and Wales and in some towns in England to stimulate interest in the work generally.

How we work. How, then, do voluntary organizations help in the provision of health and welfare services? Under the National Health Service women are employed, mostly whole-time, as domestic helps by the local authority and are available to spend perhaps one or two hours a day with an old person to help with the housework and do a bit of cooking, etc., and so help the old person to keep out of an institution. No charge is made to a person without private means. Home nurses are also provided without charge. Voluntary organizations supplement the help so given by the statutory bodies. For instance, the National Assistance Board refers elderly persons in need of friendly visiting to the local old people's welfare committee or, in some areas, to the Women's Voluntary Service (W.V.S.) or the British Red Cross Society. Both these bodies are represented on the local old people's welfare committees, as on the National Committee, but it is a matter for local arrangement as to whether in any area some particular service, such as visiting, should be undertaken by one of these organizations or through the old people's welfare committee.

In one large urban area some 700 individual visitors are regularly visiting more than 2,000 old people. The Minister of Health recently spoke on the "magnificent work" being done by local old people's welfare committees and urged that "we ought not to rest until we have established a visiting service capable of visiting about once a week every old person living alone who might be in need of help."

Old people's clubs, totalling some 4,000 - mostly weekly but an increasing number daily - are provided by voluntary organizations sometimes with small grants from local authorities.

The King George VI Memorial Foundation is using the National Committee, the W.V.S. and the BRCS for the allocation of grants totalling £400,000 towards the establishment of new clubs and the extension or improvement of existing clubs. 'Previously grants have been made through funds made available by the National Corporation for the Care of Old People which was formed seven years ago by the Nuffield Foundation in cooperation with the Lord Mayor of London's National Air Raid Distress Fund.

Another useful voluntary activity - mainly run by the W.V.S. - is the provision of "meals-on-wheels" for which local authority grants are also available. An old person may then have a hot meal taken to the door, usually several times a week. Occasionally, with the help of a hospital, special diets are supplied for diabetics and gastric patients. Other activities of local committees include the arrangement of a chiropody service and helping old people with their laundry.

Old People's Homes. Although every effort is made to help elderly people to continue to live as members of the general community - and about 97 percent are doing so - some require communal care. The provision of residential accommodation for those requiring "care and attention" is the responsibility of the local authorities, but voluntary organizations were the pioneers in this field. There are about 600 voluntary Homes and rather more than this number provided by local authorities who are increasing the provision rapidly to replace the former poor law institutions for those, of both sexes, who can appreciate the comfort of a small Home for about 25 to 35 people. Some of the voluntary Homes have been established with help from the National Corporation for the Care of Old People and others have been financed from voluntary sources or assisted by grants or loans from local authorities. If a resident in a voluntary Home has only small means, such as an old-age pension and cannot therefore afford to pay the full maintenance charge, the balance is usually met by the local authority. This is another example of the way in which there is cooperation between voluntary organizations and local authorities.

The Future. Although much has been achieved, much more remains to be done both in strengthening existing services and remedying those which are inadequate. Further provision is particularly needed in the hospitalization of old people. More accommodation is needed for those who do not require hospital care but require more care than is usually available in ordinary old people's homes. But in some parts of the country a good start has been made in meeting these needs. The care of the senile is another matter which the National Committee has particularly in mind. I have no doubt that in due course solutions will be found

for these problems also by using the same method of cooperation which has already achieved so much. To sum up, it is only by partnership between the State and voluntary organizations that the elderly in Great Britain are gradually being helped, more and more, to live happily to a ripe old age.

The State provides, directly or indirectly, money to meet physical needs and services which are costly in money; voluntary organizations also provide some services which cost money but their main task is to provide service - real personal service - which may cost much effort to people who are already busy. Thousands of people are giving voluntary service in this way.

BELOW IS A SELECTED LISTING OF BRITISH AND OTHER FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS ON AGING

Over Seventy. The National Council of Social Service, 26 Bedford Sq., London W.C.1. July 1954. Pp. 99 plus tables. 5 shillings. This is the report of an intensive investigation of the social and economic circumstances of 100 people over 70 years of age in the Borough of Hammersmith, London. In addition to describing the problems and living situations of the older people, the Report provides an account of the numerous services available to them. Highly provocative reading for American communities looking for study techniques and program ideas. Over Seventy may be obtained from the American Association of Social Workers, 1 Park Avenue, New York 16, N. Y.

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The National Corporation for the Care of Old People (in Great Britain). This is the 6th Annual Report of a fund-granting agency which is playing a major role in the development of facilities and services for older people in the United Kingdom. Describes the nature of the operations and the underlying philosophy. For a copy, write to the Corporation at Nuffield Lodge, Regent's Park, London N. W. 1, England.

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Our Advancing Years by Trevor Howell. London: Phoenix House Ltd. 1954. Pp. 192. Available in the United States from The Macmillan Company at \$3.50. This is an exceedingly useful account of the English concept of aging, of the developments in the field, and of philosophy and practices in organizations, institutions, and medical services. Valuable to all community, health, and welfare planners looking for tested ideas.

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Isleden House. The Trustees of the London Parochial Charities, 3 Temple Gardens, E. C. 4. 1951 with a 1954 Insert. Pp. 25. Isleden House is an arrangement of 83 flats, some designed to accommodate one older person, some two persons, and some 2, 4, or even 5. Special features are a central cafeteria service for the

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Aging

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AGING is a medium for sharing information about programs and activities among agencies and organizations in the field, their staffs and board members and other interested individuals. Communications and items suitable for publication should be sent to Clark Tibbitts, Chairman, Committee on Aging, of the Department, Washington 25, D. C.

Subscription: 50 cents a year for 6 issues, domestic; 15 cents addition for foreign mailing; 10 cents for single copy. Send to Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. The printing of this bulletin has been approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, August 13, 1954

Governors' Conference Takes Hold

All readers of *Aging* are aware of the mounting readiness of State governments to accept their share of responsibility for giving meaning and satisfaction to the extended years which public health and medicine have given to their citizens. The rapidly developing programs under State committees in California, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island are particularly impressive.

Now comes expression of concern representing States and Territories the country over. In August of this year the Conference of Governors, representing all of the States, adopted the following resolution:

"Spectacular improvements in medical techniques and facilities are substantially extending the span of human life, with the result, that older persons comprise an increasingly

larger proportion of our population. Increased life expectancy should provide more meaningful rewards than mere prolongation of life itself. Our older citizens are entitled, in their advancing years, both to healthful living and to opportunities for useful and satisfying activity. In order that government at all levels may do its best to cooperate in dealing constructively with the problem of the chronically ill, aged and infirm, it is essential that studies of the problem should reflect not only the existing situation but should provide a basis for intelligent planning of adequate care, treatment and rehabilitation facilities to cope with the needs of the foreseeable future.

"Accordingly, the 46th Annual Meeting of the Governors' Conference requests the Council of State Governments to conduct such a study, taking into account the material presently being developed by the national commission on the study of patients in chronic institutions and by the study groups operating in the several states, and to report its findings to the 1955 Annual Meeting of the Governors' Conference."

Currently, the Council of State Governments is proceeding with the study it was directed to make and fully expects to have its report ready for the next annual meeting. Executive Director of the Council is Frank Bane, 1313 E. 60th Street, Chicago 37.

Conference Notes

Maine. The Governor's Committee on Aging held a State-wide conference at the State House in Augusta on October 21. Lively sessions were organized around Employment and Economic Maintenance; Education and Recreation, Health and Medical Care; and Housing. For information write the chairman, Senator Carleton S. Fuller, Buckfield, Maine.

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"What You Can Do About Aging Now" was the theme of an all-day symposium conducted by the Gerontological Society of Connecticut on October 27. Dr. Robert Monroe was the principal speaker. Dr. A. J. Tuttle, State Department of Health, can report conclusions.

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The University of Washington, Seattle, will hold the first Northwest Institute on Serving the Needs of Our Aging Population on November 11-13. It is sponsored by the Committee on Gerontology of the University and the Governor's Council for Aging Population.

The Institute will deal with housing, employment, health, education and recreation and is expected to attract people from the entire northwest region. For information write to Office of Short Courses and Conferences, University of Washington, Seattle 5.

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The 1954 Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society will be held at the University of Florida, Gainesville, December 28-30. Scientific sessions and symposia will be

held in biological research, medical practice, social science research, social work and administration.

Room reservations should be made as soon as possible by writing to Mr. F. T. Adams, Jr., General Extension Division, University of Florida, 707 Seagle Bldg., Gainesville.

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The Committee on Aging of the American Public Welfare Association holds its next meeting November 15 and 16. Place is APWA headquarters, 1313 E. 60th St., Chicago.

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The University of Rhode Island held an Institute on Problems of Government Relating to Aging, on October 26. Professor Daniel Thomas, Head of the Department of History and Political Science, can provide information.

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State University of Iowa's Institute of Gerontology held its third annual conference October 11-12. Theme of the Conference was how to get action in the community. Answers will appear in the Institute's bulletin, "Adding Years to Life."

Invitation to Learning

During the past year the Gerontological Society Inc., has initiated an active campaign to expand its membership. Many readers of Aging will probably be interested in the following statement:

"The Society has two types of membership: Fellows, who are persons with professional interest in the field of gerontology, and Members, who are individuals having a general interest in the field.

"Membership in the Society is open to people who are interested in and sympathetic with its purposes, and who are nominated by two Fellows or Members of the Society. Privileges of membership in the Society include opportunity to attend and vote at annual meetings, representation on the Council which is the governing body of the Society, and receipt of the Journal and Newsletter. Fellows are elected annually from among Members on the basis of professional qualifications. Annual dues for Members and Fellows are \$10.00 and include subscriptions to the Journal of Gerontology and the Newsletter. Members may elect to receive only the Newsletter at annual dues of \$2.50.

"Applications for membership should be sent to Nathan W. Shock, Baltimore City Hospitals, Baltimore 24, Maryland."

COMMITTEE PUBLICATIONS. The Committee on Aging of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare is undertaking a thorough-going revision of its Fact Book and its Bibliography in order to bring them up-to-date. A completely rewritten version of Aging - A Community Problem will shortly be forthcoming, we hope, under the title Aging - A Community Responsibility and Opportunity. Actual publication will be announced in Aging.

The Way the Wind Blows

Westchester County, New York, advisory committee recommended programs to improve circumstances of older people at a cost of \$269,000. If appropriated, funds would be used to double the capacity of the infirmary at the county home, establish a school of practical nursing and an institute for study of chronic disease, provide clinical and nursing services, enable the library to improve services, and allow the recreation department to sponsor clubs and hobby shows. James D. Hopkins, County Executive at White Plains, received the report from the advisory committee he appointed last spring.

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Those interested in setting up a Sheltered Workshop Program will find a great deal of practical help on general administration problems in a "Question and Answer" analysis recently drawn up by the Montefiore Home in Cleveland, Ohio. The Home has had outstanding success in this field, and the data presented are based on solid experience. For a copy, address the Executive Director, Dr. Julius Weil, 3151 Mayfield Road, Cleveland Heights 18.

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Madison, Wisconsin's Vocational and Adult School has announced 7 courses in a thrilling "Back to School in the Later Years" program. Titles are Constructive Workshop (manual arts), World Geography, Geography Related to Retirement, Your Health in the Later Years, You and Your Aging Parents, You and Your Retired Husband, Autobiographical Writing. For details write to Richard W. Bardwell, Director, at the School.

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University of Washington, Seattle, announces "Living in the Later Years," an extension service course for persons preparing for these years and for workers with older people. Professor K. W. Schaie is coordinator.

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Louisville, Kentucky's Committee on the Aged completed a 2 1/2 year study of community needs to provide a satisfying and stimulating environment for its older citizens. Recommended full-time activity and counseling center, friendly visiting, more jobs, and other facilities. Which will come first, Louisville?

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To Keep You Posted is the title of a monthly report of the Executive Secretary to members of the Governor's Council for Aging Population, State of Washington. If you can get your name on the mailing list, you'll find yourself impressed with the extent of activity that can be generated by a State committee and local groups when forces are joined. Miss Margaret Whyte, Department of Public Assistance, Olympia, Washington, is the Executive Secretary and the one to whom you should write.

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Columbus, Ohio's Committee on Services to Older People reports much activity. A 3-day

workshop at Bowling Green dealing with housing and medical services to older people convinced the Committee of need for a central referral service. Facilities for vocational training are being stepped up. A Hobby Show and Senior Citizens week went off well during the summer and fall. Meeting with the County Commissioners, the Committee obtained the promise of public space for an activity center for older people. Mrs. Elinor Hixenbaugh, is Secretary of the Committee and your source of information. Address: Council of Social Agencies, Columbus.

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The Sephardic Home for the Aged, Brooklyn, N. Y., recently staged an exhibition of handicraft work at the Ulmer Park Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library. All objects shown were made in the Occupational Therapy Department by residents or out-residents of Home and included paintings, weaving, baskets, crocheting, sewing and clay modeling.

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The Robert Montgomery Presents, N.B.C. Television film, "Such A Busy Day Tomorrow" was the feature of a community meeting organized by the District Office of the Social Security Administration at Bluefield, West Virginia, to demonstrate the need of Golden Age Clubs.

Incidentally, the Regional Offices of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, which are in charge of the distribution of this film, report they are flooded with requests. If you want a print to show for a gathering in your community, better make your arrangements well ahead of time.

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The idea of free baseball tickets for senior citizens groups, mentioned in September Aging, originated with the Cambridge, Mass. Community Services, according to M. David Schaeffer, of the Committee on Recreation for the Elderly. Mr. Schaeffer passed it on to William Henderson, of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, who sold the idea to the Boston Red Sox. As a result, hundreds of free tickets for 5 Big League baseball games were made available throughout the Greater Boston area during June, July and August. For further information write Mr. Schaeffer at 53 Church Street, Cambridge 38.

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Cincinnati, Ohio is actively enforcing its building code with reference to downtown hotels. Result is being felt in displacement of large numbers of older men from unsafe buildings. Council of Social Agencies' Committee on Aging sees the situation as an opportunity for constructive action in housing older people. What's your solution, Committee?

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Anthony A. Salamone, director of adult education at St. Louis University, has been elected president of St. Louis Centers for Senior Citizens. The organization is responsible for the administration of a recreational

center for aged persons opened at the St. Louis Chronic Hospital last April. Twelve other such centers are planned by the group.

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Senior Consultants of Nassau County (N. Y.) is organized "to make available the skills of its membership to those who can utilize them and thus enable its membership to continue as active participants in the professional, business and civic life of Nassau County." In less than a year's time it has built a membership of 52, and placed 8 in full-time or part-time jobs.

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Washington, D. C., now has an active Forty Plus organization. It operates as a cooperative association of former executives and professional men over 40 years of age, currently unemployed, who are banded together in a group effort to secure permanent employment for its members. The movement which originated in Boston in 1938 now has chapters in 30 cities of the U. S. and 2 in Canada.

Books, Pamphlets and Reports

A Handbook on Education for Later Maturity is due off the press early in November. Edited by Dr. Wilma Donahue of the University of Michigan, it is published under the auspices of the Committee on Aging of the Adult Education Association. With contributions by 30 or so experts in the field, it is a practical resource book, covering every phase of the subject. "Must" reading for educators (public school or university) who are considering setting up courses specifically aimed at older people as part of their adult education program, as well as directors of old-age homes, golden age clubs, and other groups and individuals concerned with aging problems. Over 300 pages, the price will probably be set at \$4.00 by the publishers, Whiteside, Inc., 425 Fourth Avenue, New York, New York.

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Old Age and Mental Disease: Supplemental Report of The Philadelphia Mental Health Survey Committee. 58 pp. mimeo. 1954. Available from Leonard T. Beale, Chairman, 1000 Widener Bldg., Philadelphia 7. This is a comparative analysis of mental hospital and old-age home facilities between Pennsylvania and other States, addressed particularly to the question of providing care for the mentally slowed-down outside of hospitals. Author is Dr. Lawrence Kolb, twice-retired mental health worker.

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Growing With the Older Years. The 1954 report of the New York State Joint Legislative Committee on Problems of the Aging. 94 Broadway, Newburgh, N. Y. Pp. 161. Broad and provocative recommendations supported by testimony of well-known physicians, educators, social workers, and senior citizens. All of the material is as useful outside of New York as it

is locally. Generous Senator Thomas C. Desmond will send you a free copy if you'll write to Newburgh.

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Employment Problems of Older Women - An Annotated Bibliography has recently been issued by the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor. Summarizes and highlights 64 authoritative articles and publications dealing with hiring restrictions, psychological barriers, and work performance. Single copies, 35 cents, through Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. For quantities of 100 or more, a 25 percent discount.

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Geriatric Nursing, by Kathleen Newton, RN, MA. 424 pp. Illustrated. C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis. \$4.75. This is the second edition of an exceedingly useful guide for nurses working with older patients in all areas of nursing practice. Author is head of outpatient nursing service and instruction at the Cornell University - New York Hospital Medical Center. New edition brings all chapters up to date with current practices, with emphasis placed on importance of teaching patient and his family so as to minimize need of institutional care.

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Problems of Mandatory and Variable Retirement Ages in State Employment. Division of State Merit Systems, U. S. Dept. of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington 25, D. C. 1954. P. 10. Prepared in response to requests from State agencies, this document is a splendid statement of the current issues and policies involved in this knotty problem. Useful to anyone who may be involved in such considerations.

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The Architect Looks at Housing the Aged is a 16 pp illustrated pamphlet issued by the Housing Research Council of Southern California, Inc. It is a preliminary report on principles and standards compiled by a group of architects, engineers and planners engaged in private practice who have done considerable research in the field. Includes, among other things, an excellent section on nursing homes. Copies at 50 cents each may be had by writing to Whitney R. Smith, chairman of the Council, 204 S. Las Robles Avenue, Pasadena 5, California.

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The Older Nurse, American Nurses' Association, 2 Park Ave., New York 16. 1954. Pp. 40. \$1.50. Striking results of a nationwide study of employment and appraisal of work characteristics of older nurses. Shows usual discrepancy between favorable supervisor attitudes toward older personnel and behavior at the hiring desk. Conducted by Association's Professional Counseling and Placement Service.

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Craft Aide Guide and Suppliers' List, Senior Citizens Hobby Center, 59 East Monroe St., Chicago. 1954. Pp. 6. 25¢. The guide succinctly lists benefits derivable from crafts,

craft projects, books, and the names of suppliers of craft materials. The Center is a project of the Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago.

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How To Make Useful Articles For The Home from Glass Bottles. Published by the Glass Bottle Blowers Association, A. F. of L., 226 So. 16th St., Philadelphia. 23p. Free. Interesting, useful, and relatively inexpensive ideas for craft work in activity centers and clubs.

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Five Philadelphia publications. The now well-known recreation project for older people in Philadelphia has published 5 pamphlets to guide workers in Philadelphia and in other communities. All are available from the Health and Welfare Council, 1625 Spruce St. Titles are "Salient Points on Organization of Clubs for Older People," 15¢; "A Place in the Sun"; "An Ideal Job for the Volunteer," 20¢; "Philadelphia's Recreation Project for Older People," 15¢, and "Merrily We Play," 30¢. Miss Georgene E. Bowen is Director and author.

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"Senior Citizens Go Camping" is an informative account of a program tried experimentally and now adopted by the Baltimore City Department of Public Welfare. The article, by Mrs. Felisa Bracken, appeared in Nursing Outlook, July 1954.

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Helping Older People Who Have Been in Mental Hospitals, by Annie May Pemberton. American Public Welfare Association, 1313 E. 60th Street, Chicago 37. 1954. P. 16. Single copies 30¢. Quantity discounts. This is the second in a series of pamphlets on "How Public Welfare Serves Older People," product of the APWA's Committee on Aging. Mrs. Pemberton's suggestions regarding procedures in returning mental hospital patients to the community grew out of North Carolina's successful experience of several years.

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Rhode Island Committee on Aging has issued its first report. Committee was appointed by the Governor in November 1953 to "carry out the recommendations of the former Commission to Study Problems of the Aged in Rhode Island contained in its published Report July 1953. Chairman is Mrs. Gordon F. Mulvey; Executive Director, George F. Moore, Jr. Report reflects considerable activity and a lively determination to "get something done." For a copy, address the Committee at 40 Fountain Street, Providence.

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The Home News, vol. I, No. 1, appeared in September. It is a publication of The Home for Aged and Infirm Hebrews, a diversified home and apartment project with an average population of 870, located at 121 West 105th Street, New York 25. The Home News contains a good deal of philosophy and program information of general interest.

Particularly good news is the announcement that production has commenced on a film which will depict the Home's rehabilitation procedures for the instruction and guidance of professional persons.

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Retirement Life is a new monthly magazine published by the National Association of Retired Civil Employees, and a very impressive successor to the Association's bi-monthly Annuitant. Attractive format, illustrated, 24 pages, the first issue (October) lists 15 feature articles and service departments with a neat blend of information and entertainment. Distributed free to the Association's 75,000 members. Address 1625 Connecticut Ave., N. W. Washington 9, D. C.

Whom do you know who
should be reading Aging
and isn't?

(BRITISH Continued from page 3)

noon meal, kitchenettes, and baths in each flat, central laundry, sick bay, and a playground for visiting grandchildren. The pamphlet contains floor plans. With ample funds, the Trustees were able to develop an ideal if not lavish arrangement.

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Employment of Older Men and Women First Report of the National Advisory Committee to study the problem, London, Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1953. 2s. A quite thorough survey delineating the nature and size of the situation, employer and worker attitudes, and relationship of pension schemes to hiring and retirement. Has considered recommendations.

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The Care of the Aged Sick, King Edward's Hospital Fund for London. 10 Old Jewry, London, E. C. 2, 1954. Pp. 15. Hospitals were found to be doing excellent work in rehabilitation of older people but were handicapped by

having to keep partially recovered patients in the institution environment. The Fund provided £350,000 for an experiment in setting up convalescent homes in which patients could approximate normal living conditions.

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Progress Report, The National Old People's Welfare Committee, 26 Bedford Sq., London W. C. 1. This is the annual report of the NOPWC, whose work is described by the chairman, John B. Moss, in the lead article in this issue. Shows development of programs, evolution of public-private agency relationships, and lists useful pamphlets and books.

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Social Sweden. Published by the Social Welfare Board in Stockholm, 1952. Pp. 462. Social welfare programs have moved ahead rapidly in Sweden, particularly during the past two decades. Social Sweden is a comprehensive survey and statement of philosophy underlying all programs with a great deal of space devoted to insurance, health, employment, and housing services for older people. Generous use of photographs helps one "get into" the facilities discussed. The book is in English.

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Social Services in Denmark, by Orla Jensen. Copenhagen, Det Danske Selskab, 1948. Pp. 118. English translation. This is a description of the numerous services to individuals provided by legislative and voluntary programs. Housing, sickness insurance, pensions, and employment are discussed in detail.

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Geron is the Yearbook of the Societas Gerontologica Fennica (Finland). Thoughtfully, the Societas prepares an English Summary which may be had by writing to Dr. Eeva Jalavisto, Editor-in-Chief, Institute of Physiology, Siltavuorenpenger 20, Helsinki, Finland. The summaries deal with employment, creative activity, training for work with older people, institutional and home services, research, and medical matters.

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